THE KNIGHT

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LITHUANIAN MINT DIRECTOR WRITES

Lithuanian Mint Director Viktoras Miltakis has written us, and has graciously supplied us with a photograph of himself, and a short biography. He writes:

"I was born in 1938 in Taurage, in the Republic of Lithuania. In 1966 I graduated from Kaunas Technical University. I am an engineer by trade. From 1970 to 1980 I worked in the Lithuanian Academy of the Sciences at the Institute of Chemistry.

VIKTORAS MILTAKIS

From 1980 to 1990 I worked in the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences at the Institute of Physics. In 1990 I was invited by the Finance Ministry of the Republic of Lithuania to found the Lithuanian Mint. Since 1991, I have been the Managing Director of the Mint. I have my family: wife, two daughters, and three grandchildren.

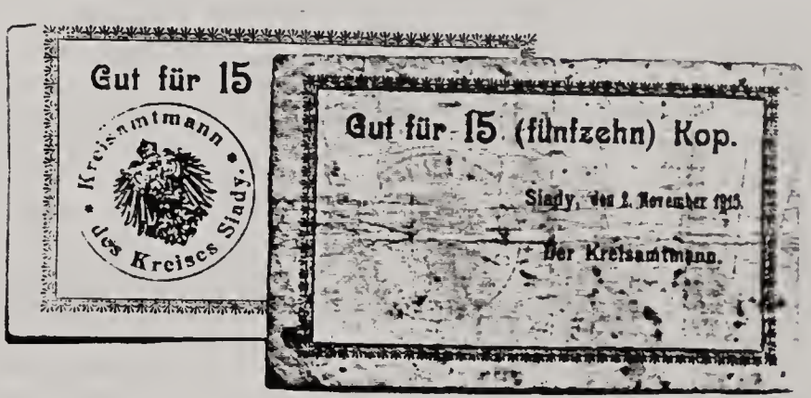
I am sending you the booklet of our Mint, the leaflet about the silver coin issued to commemorate the 5th anniversary of the reestablishment of the Republic of Lithuania, and my photograph.

Yours sincerely, Viktoras Miltakis, Managing Director, Lithuanian Mint."

It was an honor to receive a letter from Mr. Miltakis.

THE SEDA CURRENCY OF 1915

By Aleksandras Kubilas
Vilnius, Lithuania



ABOVE: Seda 15 kopeck note, Types 1 (left) and 2 (right).

Besides causing misfortune and troubles, the First World War spawned a mountain of banknotes. During their period of post-war agony, Germany and Russia printed notes in unheard-of large denominations: banknotes of thousand, million, and billion face value filled their citizens wallets.

In Germany and in the territories it occupied, for one reason or another, regional and municipal banknotes were issued. They were called Notgeld--emergency temporary currency. After the war, this currency inundated all cities, villages, and often the rural areas. This article will discuss the modest 1915 currency of the Lithuanian city of Seda, which are similar to real banknotes.

First, it must be noted that these notes had all the attributes of real banknotes, except for the serial number (which the notes do not have). The basic characteristics of the Seda currency are:

1. White paper, manufactured by the Hoesch Brothers in Kreuzau.
2. A six-sided weave pattern watermark.
3. Embossed printing.
4. Size: 92 x 58 mm.
5. Text: Uniface (face position only, back is blank). Reads: "Siady, den 2. November 1915. Der Kreisamtmann," plus the denomination in numbers and words at the top. Translation: Seda, day 2, November 1915, District Chief."
6. Colors: Black text printing, light green security background printing.
7. Design: Text is framed with a leaf ornamented border.
8. Printer: Possibly Klaipeda. The author speculates Klaipeda because the ornamental frame is very similar to the Memel 1917 1/2 mark note, except the Seda notes have a thick line added on the inside of the frame.
9. Types: 1) Hand-stamped seal with the German eagle coat-of-arms and the words "Kreisamtmann des Kreises Siady." Purple ink. 2) Seal is

Continued on page 2...

THE SEDA CURRENCY OF 1915

(Continued from page 1...)

stamped with blue ink with capital letters text which states, "KREISHAUPTMANN DES KREISES SIADY."

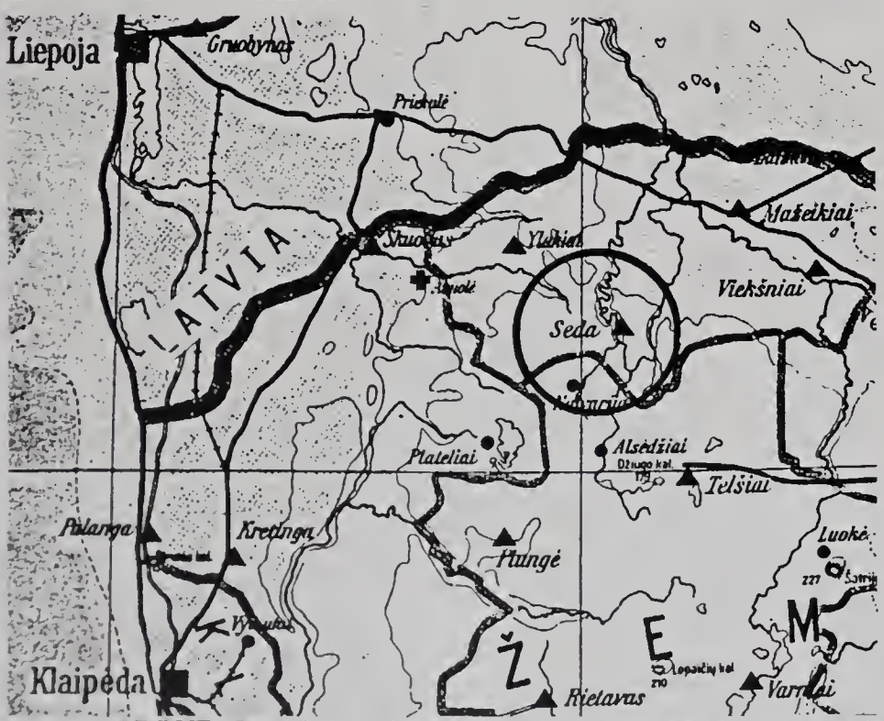
10. Signatures: None. However, room was left for the district chief's signature. This was never added.

Even though the notes were printed in German and thus were unintelligible to the target populace, the Russian monetary system was left intact, since the populace was used to kopecks. A bit earlier, analogous notes were printed in Liepaja (Libau). The text of those 1915 banknotes however, were in Russian. Only the 10 ruble note had a German text. Thus, a crow does not peck at the eyes of another crow! The populace of Liepaja and its environs spoke Latvian (Lettish), and those of Seda spoke Lithuanian. The Germans only recognized the German and Russian languages.

At the beginning of the war, Seda (Siady in German) was of some strategic value. Seven roads converged on it and the Russians used them on a number of occasions to advance into the Klaipeda region. It may be for this reason that the Germans made it the regional headquarters from April of 1915, to 1919.

Even though Seda traces its roots to the 13th century, the village, ravaged by wars and fires, grew slowly. It was only in the 16th century that a Catholic Church was erected under the overlordship of the powerful Bartusevicius family. But during the second half of the 16th century, Seda was taken over by the Calvanist Vnuchkom family, and for about 50 years it was the center of Protestantism in Samogitia.

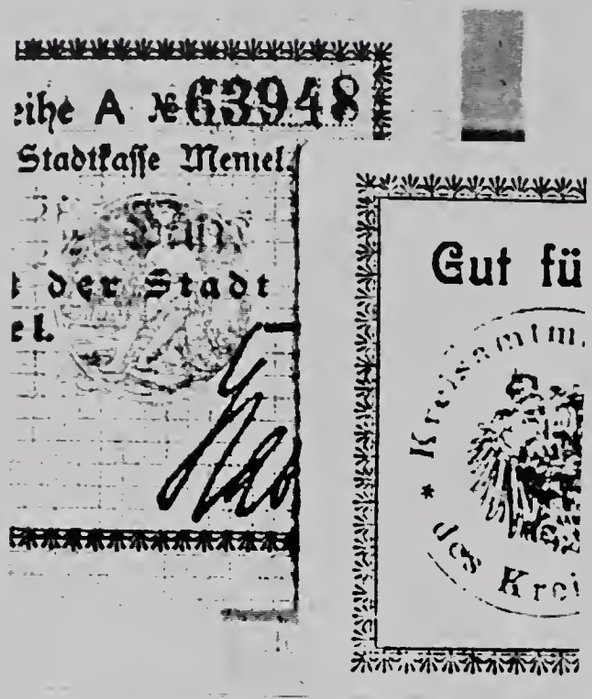
During the 18th century, Seda was under the overlordship of the Sapeiga family. From the 17th century, weekly markets and quarterly fairs were here, which housed about 50 Jewish stores. There was a waterpowered mill, a lumber mill, a slaughterhouse, a wool mill and grain elevators in Seda. In 1911 a linen mill was added.



ABOVE: Location of Seda in extreme northwestern Lithuania, and its relationship to Klaipeda, Liepaja, Mazeikiai, and Telsiai.

During the 19th and early 20th century, Seda was a district seat with 2,000 inhabitants. Being designated the district seat did not benefit Seda, since a large German staff headquarters with a large army was stationed here. They were a burden to the local inhabitants: they plundered their wealth, deported them to forced labor to Liepaja or Germany, and confiscated their food and livestock

The Germans even held a field court in Seda and cruelly tortured people here. War would not be war if one misfortune did not follow another.



ABOVE: Memel 1917 1/2 Mark (left), and Seda 1915 5 Kopecks (right). Notice that the border designs are almost identical

People who produced food or manufactured goods, engaged in trade or were employed, suffered from inflation. Large and small savings accounts evaporated to nothing.

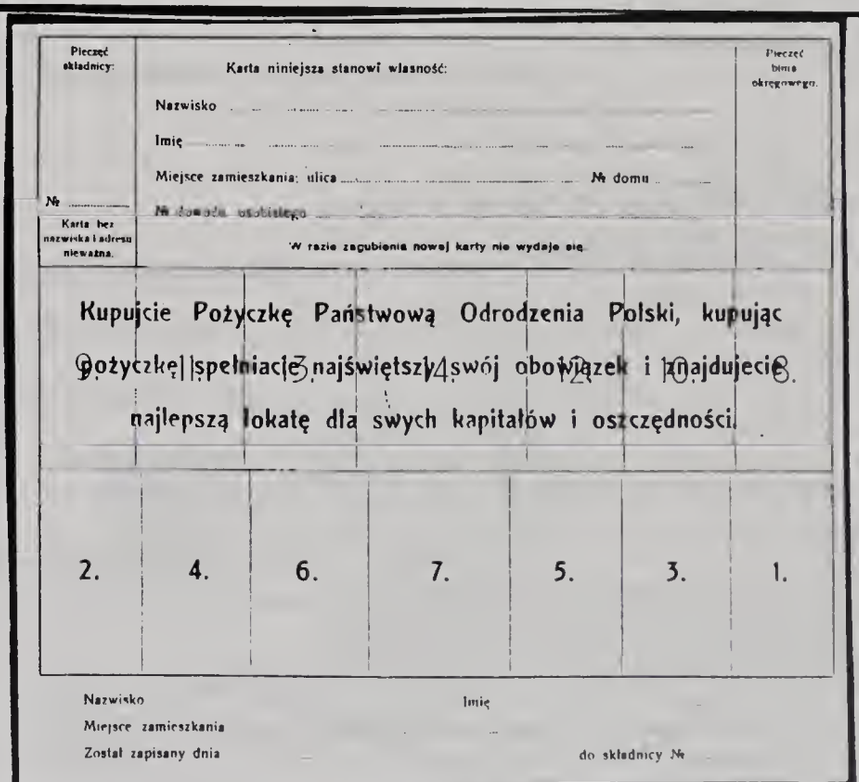
A solution was sought by issuing regional currency. However, the people issuing the money made sure they profited. It would be surprising if it were otherwise. The issuance of the Liepaja notes can be easily justified since Liepaja was a port having a large industrial base. Seda however, was a small agricultural village where, besides the mills, factories and stores, there was no large industry. In the whole eastern zone of occupation, Russian rubles and German marks were legal tender, and after the spring of 1916--the Ostrubel. The Seda notes remained in circulation for one year, until November 10, 1916. On the other hand, the Liepaja notes had 5 issues and were used even after the war (1919-1920). They were used not only in Latvia, but in parts of Lithuania--Palanga and Mazeikiai, when Latvia ruled parts of our northwestern areas.

As to why the Seda banknotes were issued, a number of theories have been offered. These notes could have been issued by order of the chief German administrator. If this were the case, the money would have been earlier. The second theory, that the Seda notes were issued at the initiative of the district chief Paul, appears to be more believable sinc a little earlier similar notes were issued in the German occupied Courland territory, namely: Liepaja (May 8, 1915), Ventspilis (July 5, .1915), and Jelgava (August 12, 1915).

The last possibility is not very believable, but cannot be dismissed. At that time, two very active Jews worked as book merchants in the Seda area: a S. Rubin in Seda, and the very creative D. David in Skuoda. D. David was very knowledgeable in the area of printing and due to his efforts right after the war, issued patriotic Lithuanian postcards. **Continued on page 4...**

VILNIUS CONTROL CARD, 1919.

VILNIUS CONTROL CARD, 1919
Size: 213 x 195 mm
Printer: Boleslaw Wirtz, Warsaw.
Color: Brown.
Watermark: Vertical lines.
Text: Polish.



This month we are featuring an unusual item from Lithuania's capital city of Vilnius, issued during the unfortunate Polish occupation of the city. It is a large size coupon dated 1919 featuring the University of Vilnius, which the Poles renamed as Stephen Bathory University. We have been told that this is possibly a food ration control card, but on the reverse is a prominent appeal to buy Polish bonds. Whatever the true facts, this scarce "note" is historical as a reflection of the changing times in Lithuania's capital city during the dark days of 1919.

The Vilnius University (known as the Academy of Vilnius) was founded on April 1, 1579 by King Stephen Bathory. It evolved from the Jesuit college in Vilnius that had been formed in 1570.

When Lithuania declared its independence in 1918, the Council of Lithuania reestablished the University, which had been closed in 1842 by the Russians. Unfortunately, the plan was not implemented, because on January 1, 1919, the Bolsheviks invaded Vilnius, and after that in March, the Poles invaded the city.

The University was renamed Stephen Bathory University by the Poles, and began to function normally in 1921. The **Encyclopedia Lituanica** states (Volume V, pg. 558): "The general attitude of the university was hostile to Lithuanians, for the university had to comply with the [Polish] government's policy, aimed at denationalizing the Lithuanians of Vilnius through a program of repression." The Stephen Bathory University was closed in 1939 when Lithuania regained Vilnius, and the University of Vilnius was rightfully restored.

Pictured on the right is a control card, reduced in size. The obverse features the images of numerous leaders and educators. On the top left is Stephen Bathory, the founder. On the right is Josef Pilsudski, "Reviver" as he is labeled. It was Pilsudski who announced the reestablished of the University on August 28, 1919 for Poland.

The text translates, "University of Vilnius. Stephen Bathory, founder. Joseph Pilsudski, reviver. 1578-1919. Coupon Fourteen, Third Period." Notice it uses a 1578 date instead of 1579.

Following are several line drawings of faculty educators, including Tomasz Zan, youth leader; Kraszewski, writer; Sarbiewski, poet; Poczobut, astronomer; Jan Sniadecki, mathematician; P. Skarga, 1st president; Jed. Sniadecki, chemist; Lelewel, historian; Smuglewicz, artist. Also pictured are Mickiewicz, and Slowacki, whose duties are not indicated.

In the center is the Polish eagle, triumphant after holding the Lithuanian Vytis in its belly. Below is regalia, with a view of the University on each side.

On the bottom is the text which translates, "Control Coupon." To the left in small print is the printers: "Zakl. Graf Boleslaw Wirtz, Warszawa."

The text on the back contains spaces for the various coupon numbers, which were cut out. The text, printed in black, translates, "Official Seal, Card Without Name and Address is Null and Void. This Card Belongs to the State. Last Name, First Name, Place

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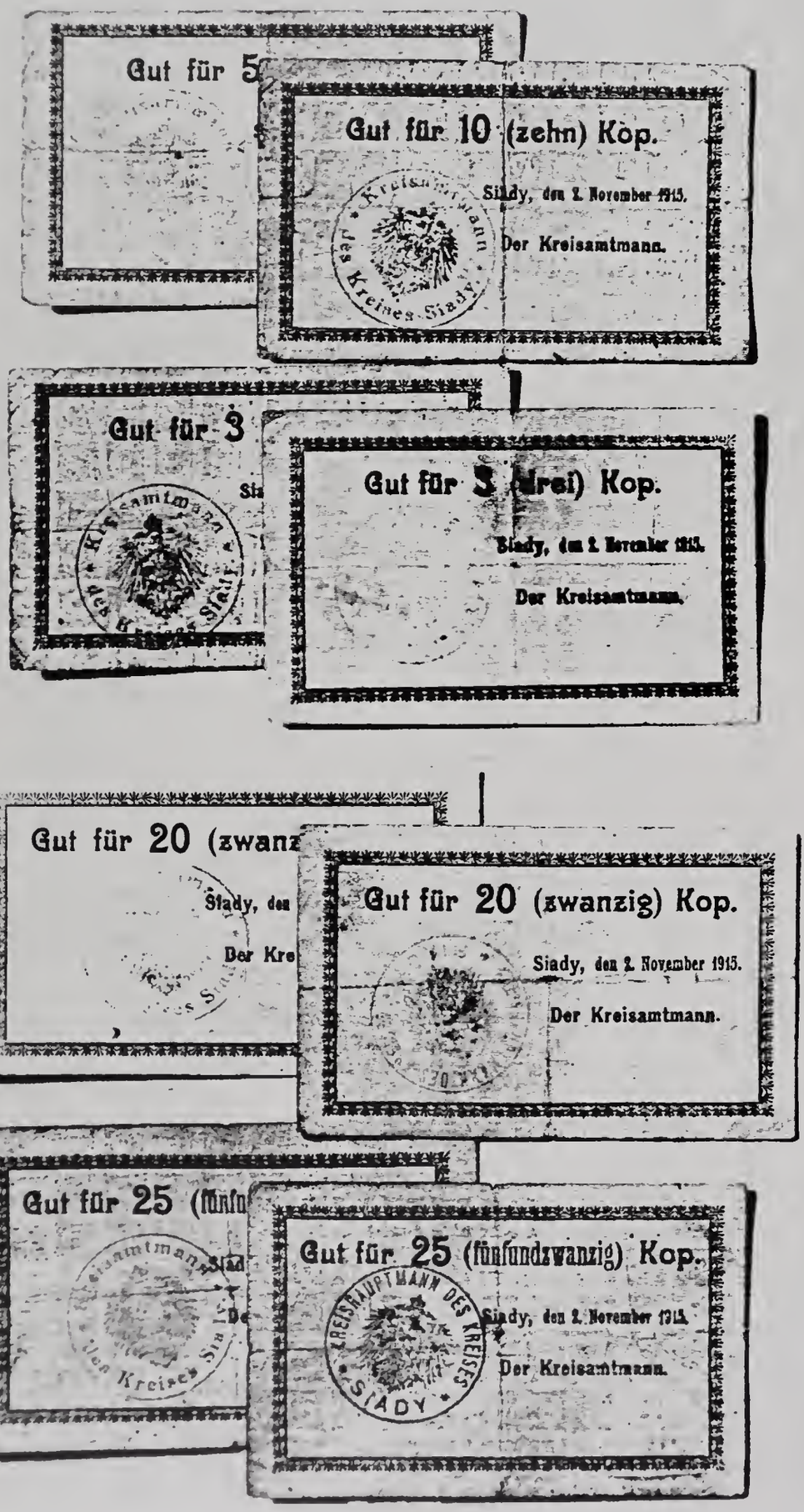
THE SEDA CURRENCY OF 1915

(Continued from page 2...)

BELOW: Top, 5 and 10 kopecks, Type I. Then the 3, 20, and 25 kopecks. Type I on left, Type II on right.



Both the German overlords and the local merchants could have profited handsomely from the sale of the Seda currency to collectors, who were in all the larger German cities. Often, even German soldiers, especially the officers, collected postage stamps, coins, and banknotes. Without doubt, these notes performed a functional economic task: they alleviated the shortage of Czarist small denomination legal tender in the area. The Klaipeda and Silute (Memel and Heydekrug) Notgeld currently available are generally in mint condition, but the Seda notes have almost always been in circulation, and some are very worn.

Table 1 tabulates the prices in **German marks** [Do not confuse these figures with U.S. dollars. --Ed.] of the various notes in the author's collection as listed in published German and Swedish catalogs from the 1950s and the 1960s. As can be seen, the Seda notes, like the Liepaja notes, were issued according to the Russian denominational system, since the local inhabitants were used to 3 and 15 kopeck denominations. In the German system however, instead of the 3 kopecks, a 2 pfennig denomination was used and the 15 pfennig denomination was not used at all.

All the catalogs considered indicate that notes of all denominations were stamped with the violet stamp (Type 1), but that only the 5, 10, and 25 kopeck notes could also be stamped with the blue stamp (Type 2) with a capital letter text. This author has in his own collection however, not only the above Type 2 notes, but those in the 3 and 15 kopeck denominations, previously unknown in the literature.

This would seem to suggest that all seven denominations were also stamped with the blue stamp (Type 2). It would seem that the Seda administrators did not place all of the notes into circulation in the fall of 1915. Only when the notes in circulation became worn out or if there was a shortage of them, was the second issue released (with the blue stamp and capital lettered text). With a change of make-up of the headquarters, not unexpectedly, the stamp of the district chief was changed.

Notes with the violet stamp (Type 1) are probably of the first issue since the titling of the district chief both on the note and on the stamp are the same (Kreisamptmann). On stamping the second issue with the blue stamp, it is changed to KREISHAUPTMANN. Some of the denominations may have been "used up" or there could have been more notes of some denominations and less of others, accounting for the rarity of the Type 2 notes.

The question still remaining open is whether there was a Seda 1 kopeck denomination note. Alek. Platbarzdis in his 1957 Catalog of Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian Coins and Banknotes speculates that they were issued and bases his opinion on the 1927 catalog of F. G. Chiuchin ("Katalog bon I Denznakov...1769-1927"), which mentions a 1 kopeck Seda note. A. Platbarzdis immediately notes however, that the very competent specialist A. Kardakoff states that 1 kopeck notes were not issued.

$I_{\text{г}}$ – banknotes with a violet stamp
$II_{\text{г}}$ – banknotes with a blue stamp
$^{\text{авт}}$ – the author does not have banknotes in parentheses

Table 1

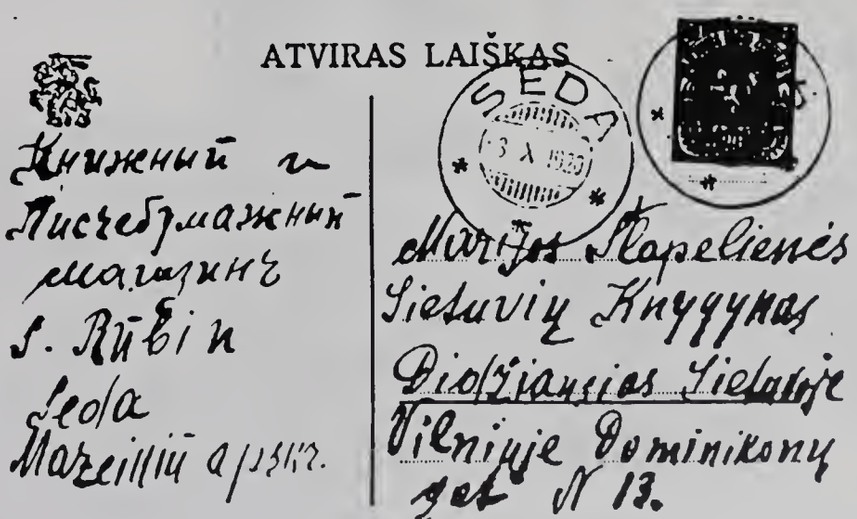
Denomination	N. Kardakoff Berlin, 1953, German language		A. Keller Berlin, 1957, German language		A. Platbarzdis 1957 German language		Stockholme 1968 English lang		Author's collection 1964-1994	
	$I^{\text{г}}$	$II^{\text{авт}}$	I	II	I	II	I	II	I	II
1 kp	–	–	–	–	?	–	–	–	–	–
3 kp	30	–	30	–	30	–	R	–	R_3	$\underline{R_8}$
5 kp	40	50	40	50	40	50	R	R	R_4	$(R_5)^{\text{авт}}$
10 kp	40	–	40	–	40	–	R	–	R_5	–
15 kp	40	–	40	–	40	–	R	–	R_2	$\underline{R_8}$
20 kp	40	50	40	50	40	50	R	R	R_4	R_5
25 kp	40	50	40	50	40	50	R	R	R_4	R_5
50 kp	40	–	40	–	40	–	R	–	(R_6)	–

Table 2

Denomination	Approximate date of acquisition	Place banknote obtained. Route of banknote through previous collections or vendors
3 kp (I)	1972	Ryga: Jurmala (Latvija)
3 kp (II)	1965	Sedos apylinkės
5 kp (I)	1980	Vilnius–Kretinga–Mažeikiai–Dobelė (Latvija)
10 kp (I)	1988	Ryga
15 kp (I)	1990	Vilnius–Gdansk (Poland)
15 kp (II)	1994	Kaunas
20 kp (I)	1980	Kaunas–Kretinga–Mažeikiai–Dobelė (Latvija)
20 kp (II)	1984	Ryga
25 kp (I)	1980	Kaunas–Kretinga–Mažeikiai–Dobelė (Latvija)
25 kp (II)	1980	Kaunas–Kretinga–Mažeikiai–Dobelė (Latvija)

Table 3

Denomination	"Aušra" Museum in Šiauliai	"Alka" Museum in Samogithia	Private collection A	Private collection B	Private collection C
3 kp	–	–		–	–
5 kp	–	I	–	I	–
10 kp	–	–	I	–	–
15 kp	–	–		–	I
20 kp	I	–	II	I	–
25 kp	–	–	I	–	–
50 kp	–	–	–	–	–



ABOVE: Postcard from S. Rubin (bookseller) of Seda, 1920.

This could have happened as a result of experiences with the earlier 1 kopeck notes in the Courland area: Ventspilis, Mitau (Jelgava), and Liepaja (Libau). In Liepaja, 1 kopeck notes were placed in circulation in two issues. However, it must be remembered that the Seda notes appeared in late fall. Wartime inflation could have undermined the issuance of the Seda 1 kopeck notes. Be that as it may, in an analogous, though an abridged 1968 catalog, A. Platbarzdis does not mention a Seda 1 kopeck banknote. F. G Chiuchin is probably in error. His catalog is full of errors. For example, in describing the Liepaja notes, he lists tham as being Lithuanian banknotes.

Table 3 lists Seda banknotes in collections in the currency Republic of Lithuania. As can be seen from the table, only two Seda banknotes are housed in Museums: One at the Samogitian Museum "Alka," and the other in the "Ausra" Museum in Siauliai. The former was found in a pile of notgeld about 8 years ago, and the latter was obtained from a local collector about 10 years ago. Both are Type 1 with the violet stamp.

The private collection "A" is most interesting since one banknote is a Type 2 with the blue stamp. It was obtained from the same collection as the author's (Vilnius-Kretinga-Mazeikiai-Dobele). The other two notes the collector obtained in the former Seda district: The 10 kopeck note at Ylakiai and the 25 kopeck note at Alsedziai. The banknotes of the other two collectors were obtained about 15 years ago and are all Type 1. The 15 kopeck note in collection "B" is without a stamp and is faded.

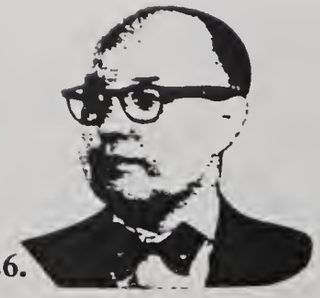
On reviewing the Seda notes in the author's collection and other collections in Lithuania, it appears that the 15 kopeck notes are most common. The 50 kopeck notes are rarer, and also the Type 2 5, 20, and 25 kopeck notes.

This author began searching for Seda banknotes about 30 years ago. Acquisitions to the collection were varied (See Table 2). Thus, of the 10 notes, 7 were found in Latvia, 1 was obtained from an inhabitant of Vilnius who obtained it from a Polish collector in Gdansk, a former German city (Danzig). However, only two notes were found in Lithuania, and both of those are Type 2 with the blue stamp which were not described in the various European catalogs. It would appear that the major foreign collections do not have these notes. Maybe these are not the last?

[Editor's Note: If any of our LNA members have any Seda notes in their collection, please make a Xerox copy of it and send it to this editor in Michigan. I will analyze them and forward it to the author to place in his research file. If you could, supply information about what year you purchased the note, where the note was purchased, for what price, and any pedigree information or story you might know about your particular note.]

LITHUANIAN NUMISMATIC DICTIONARY

By
Jonas K. Karys



26.

English translation by
V.L.G. Matelis

Continued from last issue....

LEK. The Albanian monetary unit of 100 quindari. The one lek is a coin of cheap metal.

LEMPIRA. A Honduran monetary unit (peso) of 100 centavos. A silver coin.

LEPTON. (plural-lepta). A. The smallest coin of ancient Greece. B. In modern times, a Greek copper coin, introduced in 1828. From 1831, it equalled 0.01 drachma. C. Crete's bronze coin of 0.01 drachma, introduced at the turn of the 19th-20th centuries.

LEU. (Plural-lei). The Romanian monetary unit of 100 bani, in silver. Later, in bronze. Finally, an aluminum coin.

LEV. (Plural-leva). The Bulgarian monetaryunit of 100 stotink, in silver (later of a cheaper mixture).

LIBRA. 1. An ancient Roman unit of weight, 12 ounces to the pound. 2. A Peruvian unit coin (a "gold pound"), consisting of 10 sol and 1000 centavos, a gold coin.

LIEDINTOSIOS MONETOS/Cast Coins. They were produced by pouring melted metal into forms of clay or other holders, to produce an appropriate "model" upon pressing. The earliest coins everywhere were hammered. Somewhat later, they were produced by foundering (for example, the Roman "as," as well as some other coins of eastern Asia). In modern times, all coins are struck. Foundering is used by small counterfeiters, but their counterfeits are not too difficult to detect upon close examination. Their portraits, symbols, the corners of letters and rounded edges are not distinct. In almost every counterfeit face can be seen various traces occurring in the melting process, made either before or during production, unevenesses, holes, scratches.

LIETUVISKASIS PORTUGALAS/Lithuanian Portugaler. A gold 10-ducat or florin of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, originally struck in Vilnius durng the reign of Sigismund August. The earliest known examples of this coin show that it was struck in 1562, of 23.5 carat gold and weighed 35 grams. (Equally as much as 10 golden florens or ducats of the time) How many of these portugalers Sigismund August permitted to be struck is unknown, however, it is considered and believed, not many. Such coins in those days were too large for circulation normally, thus, they were produced and used largely for the convenience of the rulers themselves, for gifts within the country, for presentation in foreign lands, etc. After a long interruption, his succesor, Sigismund Vasa, emitted a long series of portugalers in 1616-1618, following the example of his predecessor. Both the original as well as the suceeding coins of beauty, quickly advanced in price. Initially, Sigismund August's portugaler, reckoned in the price of single ducats, equalled 400 Lithuanian grasiai or 500 Polish groschen. In the days of Sigismund Vasa (1627), the cost of a portugaler rose to 1600 circulating grasiai (more than 28 kapos).

LDK-tystės "portugalai": 1, Zyg. Augusto; 2-3, Zyg. Vazos.

LIETUVOS DIDZIOJI KUNIGAIKSTYSTE/Grand Duchy of Lithuania. The GDK represented the Lithuanian state from the middle of the 13th century until the final partition of the joint "Rzeczpospolitos" Republic in 1795. From prehistoric ages, Lithuanian territory has been ruled by a series of Lithuanian Dukes in various sections: dukdoms. They were all joined into one united state by Mindaugas, who declared himself king and was so crowned in 1253. With the death of Mindaugas, the state he created was deteriorating over a span of years. Grand Duke Gediminas (1316-1341) revitalized it again and added many eastern Slavic countries to the kingdom. From that point on, the state constantly grew, became more powerful and finally, in the end alas, weakened, but held together for about 500 years, ruled by its Grand Dukes. (After Mindaugas, no one of its rulers was called or crowned as king) In the days of Vytautas the Great, the Grand Duchy reached the apogee of its power and glory. Its territories covered up to a million square kilometers and stretched from the Baltic to the Black Seas.

Ligatūros, p. 2, pavyzdys.

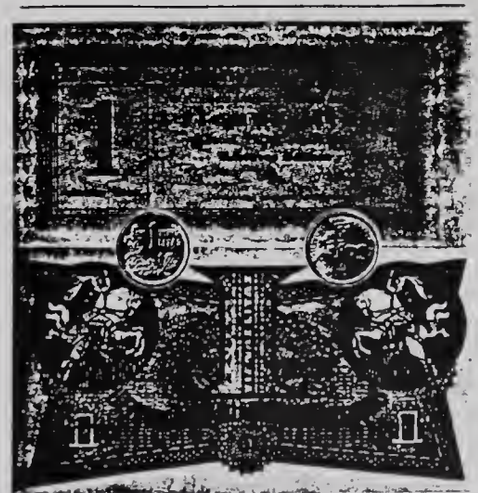
LIGATURE (In numismatics). 1. Metals of one kind or another mixed into precious metals in appropriate amounts, or in other metals, supplying new strength, hardness or color qualities. For instance, the ligature for all silver coins of the independent Lithuanian state was copper, and the 1936 emission of minor coins of copper containing ligatures of 4% zinc and 1% tin. 2. The joining of letters in coin inscriptions and legends, for example, ae and similar cases.

LIRA. 1. An old reckoning unit for coins (pound) from the time of Charlemagne, denominated lira in 953. In 1472, the Doge of Venice, N. Tron, began to strike a beautiful silver coin (of about 0.947) fineness), which originally weighed 6.52 gr. Other silver liras followed, struck in the same or related styles. In 1869, a modernized "lira Italiana" was introduced, containing 100 centisimi, more accurately deliniated by statute of 1862. Thereafter, it was struck of 0l835 fineness of silver, and weighed 5 gr. As a result of the first World War and its consequences, the Italian lira lost its value, and the one lira coin was struck of base metal. 2. In addition to Italy, it became the monetary unit: San Marino (a silver coin); Turkey (a silver coin, later an iron coin); Vatican City (a base metal coin).

LITAS. (Abbreviated Lt). The monetary unit of the Lithuanian Republic, consisting of 100 centas. One Litas denomination, a silver coin. The Litas was ushered in on Octdober 1, 1922, replacing the ruined Ostmoney. It consists of 0.150462 gr. of pure gold. The word Litas itself was fashioned from the "Lit" the first three letters of the name Lithuania in Latin, and several other foreign tongues (e.g. LIThuania, LITauen, LITwa, etc.) and the Lithuanian ending "as." With the occupation by the Soviet Union of Lithuaniain 1940, the Litas was abolished, and its use in the country was strictly forbidden from March 25, 1941. The USSR ruble was placed in circulation and so remains. [Note: this was written in 1970].

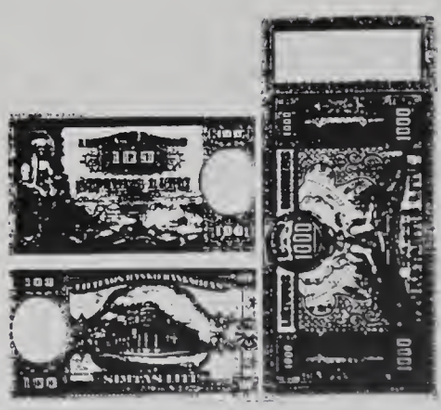
LITO BANKNOTAI/Litas Banknotes. Notes of the Bank of Lithuania were introduced on October 1, 1922, on the following day (Monday) it was placed into circulation as temporary banknotes: denominations of 1, 5, 20, and 50 cents, 1, and 5 litas. All of them were printed in Otto Elsner's modest letterpress in Berlin. Germany on September 10, 1922. The then-current Ostmoney (Ostmarks) were immediately changed with them. The first permanent banknotes, rushed to bolster the temporaries and later replacing them in circulation, were produced by the A. Haase Lithograph Company, Prague, Czechoslovakia on October 16, 1922. Their denominations: 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50 cents, and 1, 2, 5, 10, 50, and 100 Litai. Others followed, all more beautiful and fittingly produced permanent banknotes in denominations of 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 500 and 1,000 Litai. By degrees, they replaced the earlier issues. From 1925, they were all produced in England, by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. LTD, a valuable symbols printery at New Malden, using sketches by Lithuanian artists. Beginning with the l litas and higher, all permanent banknotes bore the standard covering formula: "One Litas contains 0.150462 gr. of pure gold." With the occupation by the Soviet Union of Lithuania in 1940, and the nullifying of the litas in the following years, the litas banknotes (as many as were held in the Bank of Lithuania and other offices) were burned. However, numismatists and scientists will find examples of all those notes (or at least, parts) in all proper museums of western Europe and America.

88 Lito banknotai —



Laikinasis lito banknotas išėjęs apyvarton spalio 2 1922. ir eid. monetą atejusi popieriniu vienvardžio užvaduoti 1925

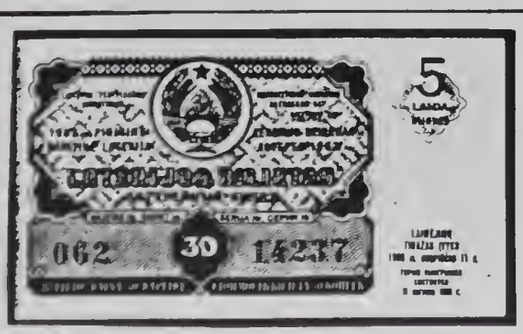
— Lito banknotai 89



Sumažinti lito banknotų pavyzdžiai (Visi, kiek tik jų Respublikoje eio, ir natūr. didumo banknotai atvaizduoti šio autor veikale "Nepriklausomos Lietuvos Pinigai").

CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE....

LOTTERY MANIA



When we featured a Lithuanian lottery ticket as our feature of the month recently, we didn't realize how popular they were/are. It turns out that several of our LNA members collect these. We spoke to one woman whose husband won 5,000 litai in Independent Lithuania during the 1930s in one of these lotteries.

Lotteries have been quite popular in Lithuania. Illustrated here are numerous types of Lithuanian lottery tickets, reduced in size. Each is intricately designed and colorful.

On top is one issued by the Lithuanian Red Cross in 1931, which was its 19th lottery. Next is the Lithuanian Civilian Aviators club for our flying enthusiasts. Another one is illustrated further below.

The first official government lottery was held in 1922, as seen here. These are light green in color, but other colors were also printed, depending upon the "shares" the ticket was worth.

Even those Communists issued capitalistic lottery tickets during the Soviet occupation, as seen in this September, 1963 ticket. So much for Marxist idealism.

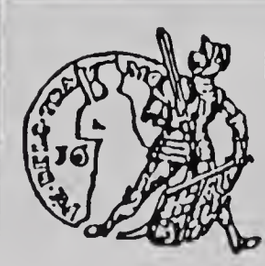
The Germans continued to issue tickets for Lithuania during World War II, taking up where the Communists, and before that Independent Lithuania left off. Here we see a 1944 ticket in a 5 Reichsmark denomination, featuring an archaic Vytis emblem.

Finally we see the Ateitininku Susiselpimo Fondo lottery ticket, with a Christian cross in the center. Perhaps divine intervention helped you win?

Today in independent Lithuania, lotteries are again flourishing. They however are the small "scratch off" instant type we are used to here in America, or the traditional numbers type issued by a city or town. One of our LNA members sent us one of these. It is interesting to see these tickets.

Most pre-WWII lottery tickets are collectable today, at prices affordable for those whose pocketbooks are too small for expensive Lithuanian banknotes. Because of the variety of institutions which issued these, topical collecting lottery tickets by group is an idea to start with.

No, the following below is not a lottery ticket. It is an advertisement from one of our member dealers. Write him for some lucky deals from his latest price list.



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DIRECTOR'S REPORT

[This is the final Director's Report from our LNA Director, Robert J. Douchis (See page 10 for news about his retiring).] Our LNA treasury stands at $1,382.13. The Val Matelis sale brought $5,000 towards the grandchildren's education.

The experience with the LNA was well worth the effort. Who could imagine what would result from my answering that first letter of yours printed in **World Coin News**. Who would have expected that Krause Publications would back off & take Lithuania out of the USSR listing? Could we have imagined that we would be collecting "contemporary" Lithuanian coins from a once-again free Lithuania?

What about the friendships developed over the years? Could we have ever imagined the support and hard work put in by members in a solely volunteer organization?

I'll never forget that letter we got asking 'How could we ever base a numismatic organization on a country that issued only 14 coins?' With the addition of members from Lithuania, it looks like the LNA will be around for a long time.

It's time for me to step down and let some others participate more directly. I have a year and a half before retirement with my government job."

--ROBERT J. DOUCHIS, Columbia, Maryland.

LNA MEMBERSHIP LIST

The following is our current list of LNA members. A CM after the name signifies a Charter Member. An asterisk (*) after the name means the member made a donation to the LNA in excess of the basic $15 fee. Thank you so much for your extra donations. An "I" means institutional.

Rev. Peter J. Alisauskas, CM, White Haven, PA
Vincent W. Alones, CM, Floral Park, N.Y.
Amos Press (Coin World), I, Sidney, Ohio
William V. Amshary, Peoria, AZ
John Armonas*, Mentor, OH
Frank J. Backitis, CM*, Charleston, SC.
John W. Balchunis, CM*, Virginia Beach, VA
Paul Barbatavicius, Scarborough, Ont CANADA
Dennis O. Bartoszkiewicz, CM*, Brigantine, NJ
Walter Berke, Rochester, NY
G. Bliudzius, Barrington, IL
Julius W. Boris, St. Petersburg, FL
Joseph J. Brazen, Sr. Chino, CA
Larry A. Brown, Shandon, CA
William S. Bubelis, Seattle, WA
Raymond R. Budd, CM, Canton, OH
Michael S. Burokas*, Pennsauken, NJ
Julia A. Busanovich*, Philadelphia, PA
George M. Daru, CM, Wilkes Barre, PA
Donald D. Dausinas, Chicago, IL
Jim Donaghy, Plymouth Valley, PA
Bruce Donahue, CM*, Accord, MA
Robert J. Douchis CM*, Columbia, MD
Steve Feller, Cedar Rapids, IA
Henry L. Gaidis, Olney, MD
Cassy Garelis, CM, Redford, MI
John Glynn, CM, London, ENGLAND
Lee Gordon, Chicago, IL
J.R. Greene, Athol, MA
Deborah Gugel, Piscataway, NJ
Ray Hafsaas, Seattle, WA
Richard J. Hamlin*, Hacienda Heights, CA
Edward Hartfick, Hamtramck, MI
Russell A. Hibbs, Henderson, KY
Don R. Hiltunen, CM, Hancock, MI
Dr. Kenneth K. Humphreys, Granite Falls, SC
Eugenijus Ivanauskas, I, Kaunas, LITHUANIA
Arunas Jablonskis, Oakbrook Terrace, IL
Arv Jarasius, Westminster, CO
Ken Kacinskas, Peabody, MA
Carl Kazakauskas, CM*, Philadelphia, PA
Brian J. Kenny, Ellington, CT
Algirdas Kepalas*, Levittown, NY
Don T. Kerutis, Leroy, MI
Douglas W. Komer, Detroit, MI
John C. Kozimbo, Linden, NJ
Aleksandras Kubilas, Vilnius, LITHUANIA
John J. Lapinski, Oak Brook, IL
A.N.S. Library, I, New York, NY
A.N.A. Library, I, Colorado Springs, CO
Tal Liepa, Des Moines, IA
Bonaventure J. Linkus*, Elizabeth, NJ
R. Tamutis, I, Vilnius, LITHUANIA
Mint of Lithuania, I, Vilnius, LITHUANIA
Embassy of Lithuania, I, Washington, D.C.
Finance Ministry of Lithuania, I, Vilnius, LI
Bank of Lithuania, I, Vilnius, LITHUANIA
Robert T. Luddy, Greenbelt, MD
John T. Maly, Colorado Springs, CO
Peter A. Manti, Lake Zurich, IL
Dmitry Markov* New York, NY
Elgy M. Masaitis, Westfield, MA
John Maske,* Boulder, CO
C. Matuzas, CM*, Richmond Hill, NY
John B. McCaugherty, Westmont, IL,
Tim Meier,* Wilmette, IL
Lou Merkys*, Lyndhurst, OH
Juozas Mikaila, Troy, MI
Edward F. Mikutis, CM, Berwyn, IL
Casimir V. Milukas, Richmond Hill, NY
Sarunas Mingela*, Northville, MI
A.V. Montavicius,* San Francisco, CA
Robert J. Mross, San Diego, CA
Balzekas Museum, I, Chicago, IL
Edward S. Muszynski, Farmington Hills, MI
Bridges Newsletter, I, Gloucester, VA
Jerome J. Norton, Syosset, NY
James Z. Olson, CM*, Seneca, IL
Harry W. Oshrin, San Berdardino, CA
Joseph V. Palskis, Webster, NY
James Paper, Simpsonville, MD
Frank Passic, CM*, Albion, MI
Donald C. Pickering,* Nashua, NH
Anne Pridala*, Crown Point, IN
Baltech Publishing, Lemont, IL
A. Radzius, Baltimore, MD
Ignas Ropininkas, I, Kaunas, LITHUANIA
Algirdas Ruzgas, CM, Woodhaven, NY
Vincent Samaska, Chicago, IL
Judson P. Saviskas, Riverside, CT
Tony Seniunas, Hamilton, Ontario, CANADA
Xavier Servais, Tournai, BELGIUM
Peter Shulin, CM*, Washington, PA
Sharon M. Sienuta, Arlington, VA
Gordon A. Singer, Greenbelt, MD
Tyge Sondergaard, Nr. Alslev, DENNMARK
Alfonsas Stanevicius*, Lynden, Ontario, CANADA
Adolph V. Stankus, Jr. Gardnerville, NV
Mel Steinberg, CM, San Anselmo, CA
Karl Stephens, CM, Temple City, CA
Arthur J. Stetkis, Brockton, MA
Anthony Tumonis, Tucson, AZ
Peter Vaitkevicius, Mukwonago, WI
Gediminas Vaitkus, Tijeras, NM
Raymond Variakojis, CM*, Rocky River, OH
William Velms, CM*, Ansonia, CT
Eugene Vidmantas, Rochester, NY
Bank of Vilnius, I, Vilnius, LITHUANIA
Mary Kober, VYTIS, I, Fort Wash. NY
Paul Waichulaitis, CM, Waupaca, WI
World Coin News, I, Iola, WI
Kazmier Wysocki, CM*, S. Hackensack, NJ
Michael Yanuskevich*, Nashua, NH
Joseph P. Zager, Sumter, SC
Edward D. Zemaitis, CM, Woodhaven, NY
Anne K. Zichko, Fishkill, NY
Dr. Victor Zilaitis, Sun City Center, FL
K. Paul Zygas,* Tempe, AZ

WANT/FOR SALE ADS

FOR SALE: Republic of Estonia 1927 £ 100 Currency Loan bond, with coupons. Also lithograph of Cossacks murdering Lithuanian church members (1890s). Write. Don R. Hiltunen, **701 Hancock St,** Hancock, Michigan 49930.

FOR SALE: Lithuanian coins including contemporary commemoratives; banknotes both pre-World War II and contemporary; Talonas notes; lottery tickets 1920s-40s; Rare WWII 10 Punkte note for Lithuania & other denominations; Liepaja 1915 notes; 1990 and 1991 factory scrip notes; contemporary Lithuanian medals; Lithuanian numismatic reference books, and other items. WRITE FOR PRICE LIST. Improve your collection. Frank Passic, 900 S. Eaton St., Albion, MI 49224.

LNA DIRECTOR RETIRES

After 17 years of printing and mailing **The Knight**, managing the LNA membership list, maintaining the LNA treasury, and some secretarial duties, our LNA director Robert J. Douchis is announcing his retirement as Director of the LNA.

It was Bob and yours truly who decided to form the LNA in 1978, after a series of letters appeared in **World Coin News** expressing interesting in collecting Lithuanian coins.

Bob has spent many hours of devotion to the LNA, for which we all are very thankful, especially this editor who could not have produced **The Knight** all these years without him.

We are now looking for a person who would be willing to take an active role in the Lithuanian Numismatic Association to take Bob's place on a long-term basis.

This volunteer position would officially begin with the September-October issue, but we hope to get someone during the summer to work with Bob to handle the transfer of materials, our P.O. Box number, receive advice and "how to do it," and related matters. We will keep our members informed.

If you would like to take on this project, write us at our Maryland address. We hopefully will make a decision this summer from amongst those who offer to volunteer. Our LNA is an association of collectors of Lithuanian numismatic material. We've been able to exist all these years due to the dedication of our members. We'll be looking for your letter.

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MEMBERSHIP NEWS

This is the last issue of Volume 17. Volume 18 will begin with the next issue, September-October, 1995. We have corrected our serial number in this issue to #95, as a result of an error made several issues ago. Next volume at the end we will celebrate our 100th issue! How do you think we should celebrate this? Let us know.

All our PAID members are receiving a FREE CONTEMPORARY LITHUANIAN COIN in this issue! Your editor has been wanting to do something like this for years for our members. Special thanks to Stanley Balzekas of the Museum of Lithuanian Culture in Chicago who brought with him change from his recent trips to Lithuania. As a result, we are enclosing 1 coin per envelope. These are all 1991-dated coins and range from 1 centas to 2 litai, in various conditions.

This reminds this editor of how he got started collecting Lithuanian coins in 1976: I purchased a 1936 1 Centas coin, in XF-AU for $7.00. Since I had that one coin, that meant that I had to get all the others, too to make a set. And that's how I got started!

We would appreciate our members sending in their renewal for our next Volume year now, to save us postage and costs of renewal notices. Even though there was a postal increase (and another one is anticipated for next year), we are keeping the price at $15 at this time. Your donations above the subscription price are welcome to help us with expenses, such as membership to the ANA, our P.O. Box, postage to a few Lithuanian institutions, etc.

The Val Matelis estate sale was a big success. Approximately 2/3 of the banknotes, and 1/2 of the coins/medals went to LNA members. The remaining balance was sold to one our LNA member dealers, Jim Paper. Thank you for your participation, and we hope you were able to enhance your collection from the collection of our late LNA translator.

THE KNIGHT. Volume 17, No. 5, Issue #95. The official publication of the Lithuanian Numismatic Association. Frank Passic, EDITOR. Robert J. Douchis, DIRECTOR.

Subscription/Membership is a donation of $15 or more per current volume. Write: Lithuanian Numismatic Association, P.O. Box 612, Columbia, Maryland 21045.

EDITOR'S ADDRESS: Frank Passic, 900 S. Eaton St., Albion, Michigan 49224.

FOR BACK ISSUES: Write: Sarunas Mingela, 46707 Stratford Court, Northville, MI 48617.

The LNA is a member of the American Numismatic Association C-117903.

1919 VILNIUS CARD

(Continued from page 3....)

The text on the back contains spaces for the various coupon numbers, which were cut out. The text, printed in black, translates, "Official Seal, Card Without Name and Address is Null and Void. This Card Belongs to the State. Last Name, First Name, Place or Residence Street, House Number, Personal I.D. Number. In the Event of Loss of Card, a New One Will Not Be Issued. Seal of the National Bureau."

In large print in the center is the red text which translates, "Buy National Bonds for the Rebirth of Poland, By Buying Bonds You Fulfill the Holiest of Your Obligation and you will find the Best Place for your Capital and Savings."

At the bottom are spaces for more information: "Last Name, First Name, Place of Residence, Signed Up on This Day, Account Number."

Special thanks to LNA member Edward Muszynski for translating the Polish text for us.